

REMARKS

B. Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment - 37 C.F.R. §1.121

On April 27, 2006 a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The basis for this Notice is that certain canceled claims are not mentioned. The Listing of the Claims has been amended herein to identify that Claims 1-48 are canceled. Reconsideration and removal of this objection is respectfully solicited.

B. Rejection of Claims 85 and 92 - 35 U.S.C. §112

In the Office Action, Claims 85 and 92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the inventive subject matter. In particular, Claim 85 and 92 were rejected as identical to Claims 82 and 91, respectively.

Claims 85 and 92 have been canceled herein, which should make this rejection moot.

Reconsideration and removal of the Section 112 rejection are respectfully solicited.

C. Rejection of Claims 49-143 - 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In the Office Action, Claims 49-143 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Fletcher-Haynes et al. U.S. Published Application No. US 2001/0034614 A1 (hereinafter "Fletcher-Haynes").

Independent Claims 49 and 98 have been amended to include that the blood component collection application includes a blood component collection initialization code segment or process and an arm-prep code segment or process. Independent Claim 143 previously had these limitations.

Fletcher-Haynes does not fairly teach or suggest the invention in independent Claims 49, 98 and 143 for at least the following reasons.

Fletcher-Haynes is generally concerned with manipulating and optimizing blood collection procedures to maximize the type or amount of blood components that may be collected from a particular donor.

However, unlike the present invention, Fletcher-Haynes does not fairly disclose or teach a system of the type claimed in Claim 49 that includes an arm-prep code segment, a computer readable medium of the type claimed in Claim 98 that includes an arm-prep process, or a method of the type claimed in Claim 143 that includes an arm-prep code procedure and a disconnect-blood-component-donor

procedure.

The Applicants are not in agreement with the reasons cited in many of the remaining rejections of other dependent claims that are not specifically addressed above. However, since independent Claims 49, 98 and 143 are believed to be patentable over the cited art, the remaining dependent claims should also be allowable as placing additional limitations on these independent claims.

Additional amendments have been made to correct the claim dependency of Claims 86, 89 and 90, to correct an antecedent issue in Claim 105 and to specify the type of identifier in Claim 140.

Reconsideration and removal of the rejections of Claims 49-84, 86-91 and 93-142 are respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is believed that Claims 49-84, 86-91 and 93-142 patentably distinguish over the prior art and that these claims are in condition for allowance. Early allowance is respectfully solicited.

Attached to this amendment is a petition for a three-month extension of time to make the re-filing of this amendment timely.

It is believed that no fees are due since the number of claims has been reduced by the cancellation of Claims 85 and 92. However, if any fees are applicable, kindly charge any such fees to our deposit account number 50-1039.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to further discuss any of these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated

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